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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telephone Conversation with Corazon Aquino,
President of the Republic of the Philippines (S)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Corazon Aquino, President of the Republic of the
Philippines
Notetaker: Karl D. Jackson

DATE, TIME December 4, 1989, 7:37 - 7:42pm EST
AND PLACE: The Oval Office

The President telephoned President Aquino concerning the attempted coup in the Philippines. (S)

The President: "How are you, Mrs. President?" (U)

President Aquino replied, "How are you, George?" (U)

The President continued: "I tried to call you from Brussels but could not get through. I am calling just to see how things are going." (S)

President Aquino: "We still have a problem in Makati. We are trying in every way to persuade the rebels to give up peacefully. We have their relatives on the radio urging them to do so." (S)

The President: "Makati? Is this where the Americans are located?" (S)

President Aquino: "This is the business district where most of the plush apartments are located. I talked to Nick Platt and told him that our primary consideration, in any of our actions, would be preservation of civilian lives." (S)

The President: "Is there any way to get them out. Any President would be concerned to get them out." (S)

President Aquino: "We have been delaying this because there are so many civilians. We have taken all means to negotiate, and we will continue to take into consideration the lives of the civilians." (S)

The President: "We appreciate this greatly. How is the situation elsewhere?" (S)

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President Aquino: "In Cebu there is no fighting. There are a few rebel officers occupying the airport. The Cardinal of Cebu and the civilians have held a huge rally to get them to give up peacefully." (S)

"Here in Makati is the main problem. There are snipers on the buildings. We are trying to get the snipers first. We are taking every precaution but cannot allow the situation to continue indefinitely." (S)

The President: "How are you holding up?" (S)

President Aquino: "I'm O.K. The rebels used rockets against the Palace on Friday morning. Now, in this and most other parts of the city, life has returned to normal. Only Makati is still a problem." (S)

The President: "Good Luck, and I do appreciate anything your military can do to get the civilians out of Makati. We are proud of you and the way you have stood up with great courage throughout the crisis." (S)

President Aquino: "I want to thank you for your strong statement of support." (S)

The President: "You need not thank me. We want to see you succeed. Best of Luck." (S)

-- End of Conversation --